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FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

May 23, 2002

To:

Re:

SPOLD TOO

United States Patent and Trademark Office

United States Patent Application No. 08/907,687

Title: Method of Pretreating Lignocellulose Fiber-Containing

Material for the Pulp Making Process

Marc J. Sabourin

146/US

FAX:

FROM:

L. JAMES RISTAS, ESQ.

MESSAGE: Attached please find a Request for Clarification for the subject patent application.

NUMBER OF PAGES BEING TRANSMITTED 3 page(s) including cover sheet.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of: Marc SABOURIN

Application No.: 08/907,687

Examiner: M. Alvo

Filing Date: August 8, 1997

Group Art Unit: 1731

Method of Pretreating Lignocellulose Fiber Containing

Material for the Pulp Making Process

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

VIA FACSIMILI

Sir:

REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION OF ADVISORY ACTION

Applicant acknowledges receipt of the Advisory Action for the subject application dated May 14, 2002, according to which the Affidavit and Request for Reconsideration submitted by applicant were considered but did not place the application in condition for allowance. The examiner stated that these papers did not place the application in condition for allowance because, in essence, the claimed invention is obvious over the disclosure of the CEDERQUIST patent, for the reasons set forth in the final rejection.

Applicant filed a Notice of Appeal on April 11, 2002, and in the interest of economy and efficiency for applicant, the examiner and the Board, applicant hereby requests clarification as to the issues that remain open for appeal. In particular, applicant requests clarification as to (1) whether the amendments filed April 11, 2002, were entered for purposes of Appeal and (2) whether the rejection under 35 USC §112 first paragraph has been withdrawn.

<u>Facsimile Contificate</u>

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to (703) 872-9311 on the date given below, addressed to N Commissioner for Patenta, Washington, DC 20231.

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Inasmuch as the due date for filing the Appeal Brief is June 11, 2002, applicant request a prompt reply from the examiner to this request for clarification.

Respectfully submitted, Marc SABOURIN

James Ristas

Registration No. 28,663 Alix, Yale & Ristas LLP Attorney for Applicant

Date: <u>May 23, 2002</u> 750 Main Street

Hartford, Connecticut 06103-2721

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